

NOUS41 KWBC 051930
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 21-73
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
330 PM EDT Thu Aug 5 2021

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From: Jeffrey Craven
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 Meteorological Development Laboratory

Subject: Update to the National Blend of Models (NBM) Quantile Mapping and Dressing (QMD) to Fix an Issue with Probability of Precipitation Values in the Alaska Domain: Effective on or about August 17, 2021

Effective on or about Tuesday August 17, 2021, beginning with the 1200 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) model run, the NWS National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) Central Operations (NCO) will implement an update to the National Blend of Models (NBM) Quantile Mapping and Dressing (QMD).

In the event that the implementation date is declared a Critical Weather Day (CWD) or significant weather is occurring or is anticipated to occur, implementation of this change will occur at 1200 UTC on the next weekday not declared a CWD and when no significant weather is occurring.

In late-July, NWS Forecast Offices in Alaska identified calibrated Probability of Precipitation (PoP) values for 6-, 12-, and 24-hour periods that did not agree with the accompanying calibrated Percentiles of Quantitative Precipitation Forecasts (PQPF).

Upon investigation, it was determined that an incorrect land/water binary mask is being used for the Alaska domain, leading to un-calibrated PoP values in the product output. This update will apply the correct mask, allowing for the calibrated PoP values to be outputted to the QMD PoP Alaska product where available.

The locations on the NOAA Operational Model Archive and Distribution System (NOMADS) of the affected files include:

<https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/blend/prod/blend.YYYYMMDD/CC/core>

Filenames are blend.tCCz.core.fHHH.ak.grib2.

<https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/blend/prod/blend.YYYYMMDD/CC/qmd>

Filenames are blend.tCCz.qmd.fHHH.ak.grib2.

<https://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/blend/prod/blend.YYYYMMDD/CC/text>

Filenames are blend_nbetx.tCCz, blend_nbptx.tCCz, blend_nbstx.tCCz, and blend_nbxtx.tCCz, respectively.

In the above paths, YYYYMMDD is the 8-digit year, month, and day, respectively; CC is the Blend cycle time; and HHH is the forecast projection.

A list of the headers that affect PoP06 and PoP12 over Alaska include:

For PoP06:

YUAB12 KWEC
YUAB18 KWEC
YUAB24 KWEC
YUAC06 KWEC
YUAC12 KWEC
YUAC18 KWEC
YUAC24 KWEC
YUAD06 KWEC
YUAD12 KWEC
YUAD18 KWEC
YUAD24 KWEC
YUAE06 KWEC
YUAE12 KWEC
YUAE18 KWEC
YUAE24 KWEC
YUAF06 KWEC
YUAF12 KWEC
YUAF18 KWEC
YUAF24 KWEC
YUAG06 KWEC
YUAG12 KWEC
YUAG18 KWEC
YUAG24 KWEC
YUAH06 KWEC
YUAH12 KWEC
YUAH18 KWEC
YUAH24 KWEC
YUAI06 KWEC
YUAI12 KWEC
YUAI18 KWEC
YUAI24 KWEC
YUAJ06 KWEC
YUAJ12 KWEC
YUAJ18 KWEC
YUAJ24 KWEC
YUAK06 KWEC
YUAK12 KWEC
YUAK18 KWEC
YUAK24 KWEC

YUAL06 KWEC
YUAL12 KWEC
YUAL18 KWEC
YUAL24 KWEC
YUAM06 KWEC
YUAM12 KWEC

For PoP12:

YDAB12 KWEC
YDAB24 KWEC
YDAC12 KWEC
YDAC24 KWEC
YDAD12 KWEC
YDAD24 KWEC
YDAE12 KWEC
YDAE24 KWEC
YDAF12 KWEC
YDAF24 KWEC
YDAG12 KWEC
YDAG24 KWEC
YDAH12 KWEC
YDAH24 KWEC
YDAI12 KWEC
YDAI24 KWEC
YDAJ12 KWEC
YDAJ24 KWEC
YDAK12 KWEC
YDAK24 KWEC
YDAL12 KWEC
YDAL24 KWEC

Any questions, comments or requests regarding this implementation should be directed to the contacts below.

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or

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For questions regarding the dataflow for NWS/NCEP services, please contact:

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A webpage describing the NBM can be found at:

http://www.weather.gov/mdl/nbm_home

National Service Change Notices are online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/notification>

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